

EXCULPATES SENATOR OWEN

Judge Shea Says Big Drainage Scheme Worked Up for Engineers' Profit

LANDOWNERS REVOLT

Refers to Joker in Law By Which It's Easier to Muct Property Owners

CALLING it a spider and snuffing no weeds in the redaction, Judge John J. Shea of Bartlesville, one of the most eminent attorneys in northeastern Oklahoma, declared Friday morning that a ring of Oklahoma City promoters and their associates were constantly attempting to thwart bankruptcy drainage projects on the people of the state, that they might secure an enormous profit from the sale of bonds. Mr. Shea, a few days ago, frustrated an attempt to sell over one of the drainage schemes in Washington waters.

"Press reports from Bartlesville to the effect that Senator Owen, who owns 23,000 acres of land in the northern part of Washington county, was made the subject of a denunciation of popular feeling by me, because he was suspected of being behind the drainage scheme for selfish purposes, was entirely wrong," said Mr. Shea. "Senator Owen was indeed upon the side of the promoters, as were the citizens of the drainage district, and the bond security companies. Mr. Shea has gone on to say now through a man of Kansas City engineers, our

play personally by him, the gigantic bond promotion scheme was discovered in time to prevent Washington county taxpayers from spending \$100,000 on lands that we scarcely worth that amount."

Board Didn't See It

The board of county commissioners, imbued with the belief that they were making a beneficial move for the county, created the Washington county drainage district composed of 50 miles of river land and 20 miles lying along creeks, or 70 miles comprising 25,000 acres of land. Four per cent of this is restricted Indian land, non-transferable. When this area is subtracted from the total, it will be found that the cost alone for the drainage would have amounted \$100.

"Now the legislature, several years ago, passed a law providing that a vote on the part of fifty per cent of the citizens living in a proposed drainage district will constitute the proposed district, but in our case, it is that law was passed which prohibited trifles like it. Who signed up in the lower end who has lost it can probably be discovered by a glance at the records."

Plan for Engineers

"So when the county commissioners of Washington county, without sufficient investigation, created this district, but little more remained for the promoters to fulfill their scheme. Evan Senator Owen, one of the best and ablest lawyers in the country, was unaware of the extent of their scheme, and fell in with it. I have been informed that a movement was on foot to ready a list of engineers who would receive three thousand dollars and half the cost of the value of materials for making a survey of 150,000 acres of ground, thousands of acres. When this became known, America with the information that some engineers were to receive a commission of fifteen per cent on the deal, we learned whereof. I have since purchased a series of land near Tulsa and have no scheme passed. It would have cost me about \$20,000. So if my neighbors and I have hired a firm of Kansas City engineers to make a survey, with the

result that a new meeting was called at Bartlesville on December 2 and the county commissioners voted, by a unanimous vote in the taxpayers' interest, to set aside the proposed district."

Survey Should Get Little

The department of agriculture upon request will send engineers at its own expense to survey drainage projects provided the survey includes transportation and other trifling expenses. The total cost of the survey by the government would have been \$100,000. That, however, is the official figure. The actual cost would have been less, because there is no money to be had for the survey."

"Now, Sir, I repeat that the survey which aforementioned officers of the Washington county drainage district failed to get started, was of course, never put into the design. In Rogers County, however, we have had signs set up all over the country to the same kind of a do-it."

To Prevent the Grippe

Clubhouse, Grippe, Last Year, Brooks, Continue Remains the same. There is only one "Brooks" signature. F. W. ROBERTS' signature is lost.

DIES SUDDENLY

UNITED, Dec. 11.—J. H. COOK, 63, an old manufacturer of Knightsbridge, died suddenly of heart failure, here, last evening. He was a past grand master of the Knightsbridge Lodge.

EGGS GET \$1.00

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 11.—Long before Friday reached the first State fair, Mr. L. C. FRYSON, King of the Egg Farmers, visited the city. He is a member of the Egg Farmers of America, and another fishery has been established at Medicine Park, near Lawton, and another fishery is to be established in the eastern part of the state. These with further assistance from the government will supply the fish with which to stock all suitable lakes and ponds constructed in the state.

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EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Two State Departments and Federal Agents to Assist in Propaganda

"A POND on Every Farm in Oklahoma" is the slogan that has been adopted in the movement that shortly will be launched in this state under combined auspices of the state agriculture department and the agricultural agents of the federal government stationed in Oklahoma.

These departments shortly will be pushing the propaganda by means of newspaper publications, through the personal preachers of the workers in the departments.

The game and fish department field representatives in every county in the state and a fund of \$100,000 will be expended in the propagation of fish. A fish hatchery already has been established at Medicine Park, near Lawton, and another fishery is to be established in the eastern part of the state. These with further assistance from the government will supply the fish with which to stock all suitable lakes and ponds constructed in the state.

Food Value of Fish

The uniform value of fish cannot be indicated by valuations attained

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the federal farm agents supplement a department of agriculture to watch the work of the state game department in this propaganda, will the just illuminate and the wheat plants change to a red or yellow color. Such spots in areas should be immediately plowed under and rolled, or if a crop is abundant, this should be scattered over the spots and buried. The birds of a certain infestation in the country, as well, will depend upon weather conditions between this and April 1.

GREEN BUG SHOWS

Dept. Agriculture Warns Farmers to Stamp Out Wheat Pest Without Delay; Plow Under Infested Spots

WASHINGON

Dec. 11.—The Reverend Dr. Charles Thompson, one of the pioneer American missionaries to Japan, died recently at his home in Tokyo only a few days after he had observed his 50th birthday. The 52 years Thompson labored in Japan as a missionary of the Presbyterian church.

LOCAL STORIES OF INTEREST From Advertisers Will Appear Here Each Week.

The manager and directors of the Miller-Jackson Tin and Woodenware Co. gladly take this opportunity of expressing their confidence and faith in the future of Oklahoma City as the coming largest distributing point in the southwest and of the state as a whole. This feeling of confidence has been abundantly borne out during the year of 1915 in the sounder business conditions all over the state, the readiness of merchants to buy saleable merchandise, the much better collections than in previous years and as a result, the very substantial and gratifying increase in the volume of business done.

During the eleven years of this firm's existence each year has been a better year than the one before, each showing an increase in sales which came from the gradual betterment of our city and state. And 1915 has fulfilled all expectations. It has been The Banner Year and we sincerely hope that this steadily growing wave of fulfillment and prosperity has reached all of our business associates.

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E. W. JULIAN, Mgr.

EDITORIAL

Men of good business judgment, who keep abreast of the time and have an eye to the future in matters financial, commercial and industrial, are practically a part in the statement that this country at the moment is on the verge of the greatest era of business prosperity the country has ever known.

They also are agreed that this wave of prosperity will come whether the European war brought to an early close or continues for several months or a year or two.

This impulse of prosperity already has been felt in the western states and is gradually enveloping the entire country. Already it is being appreciated in Oklahoma, a state that with the others, has experienced an era of depression, but which was the first to manifest recovery.

This state, along with the other states of the union, has experienced the greatest crop year in history. There is no better basis for prosperity. Two of the biggest industries in the state are represented in oil production and lead and zinc mining. The mining district of northeast Oklahoma now is the most active in the world. Oil prices are rapidly ascending, and the Mid-Continent field has taken on renewed activity. The daily income of oil producers in this state mounts into the millions. All this makes for prosperous conditions.

The people of Oklahoma have a tremendous buying power this year, and it is increasing instead of declining. This spells opportunity for the manufacturing industries of the state, now in the infant stage. Under proper patronage they will grow and prove a real benefit. There may be other dull years in the future. The best safeguard against such adverse conditions is to build up home industries. Keep Oklahoma money in Oklahoma by purchasing Oklahoma industries. Spend your money at home.

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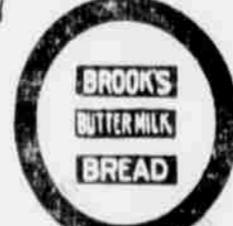
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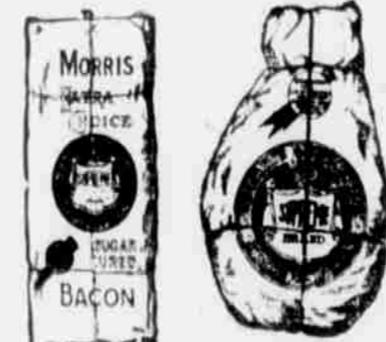
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